

6-24-2010 Minutes for Bike/Ped Task Force

Vision: For Asheville to be a community of connected pathways that is healthy, safe and accessible for people of all ages.

Mission: To educate the public about bicycle and pedestrian transportation. To advocate for the development and maintenance of safe, convenient and inter-connected facilities. To promote the benefits of walking and biking for individuals and community health.

Our next meeting will be July 22, 2010

Members present: Gwen Wisler, Janet Barlow, Terri March, Lou Leib, Stephen Jones, Stephen Sachs, Katie Chappell, Tom Redinger and Claudia Nix. Barb Mee was on vacation.

Old Business:

I sent a [letter to Jay Swain](#) this week. Hopefully he will agree with our request

We reviewed the Mission Hospital road marking plans for Hospital Drive. The following are a number of suggestions we came up with in an effort to make the route a little safer for bicyclists. First, we are concerned with the posted speed limit and hope it will be low and perhaps an unusual speed to draw more attention, like 18 mph or 22mph. We agree that the right lane needs to be a right turn only lane on the portion from McDowell up hill and the bike lane needs to be placed between the right turn lane and straight through lane. This will place cyclists who are traveling to Biltmore Avenue in the correct position and make it possible for those bicyclists turning to have an easier ability to move to the appropriate placement. In an effort to make the bicyclist more visible we would like the lane to be a colored one. We feel a sign is needed to warn motorists to yield to cyclists in the lane after the motorists turn left from McDowell and are heading to the hospital or AB Tech. We suggest not putting a lane on the downhill to McDowell and instead have a sign posted saying Cyclists and Motorists sharing lane. We agree with the design of the bike lane being in the center of the right turn lane and straight lane traveling toward Biltmore Avenue and on the other side phasing out the bike lane just after the parking driveway so cyclists have time to maneuver into the far lane for left turns. Janet Barlow will follow up with Barb on the pedestrian requests next week

Below is the list of intersections we want to include in the Bike/Ped Counts.

Biltmore & South Charlotte (new)	Lexington & College (new)
Biltmore & Short Coxe (new)	Fairview in Oakley #31
Southside & Coxe (new)	McDowell & Choctaw (new)
College & So. Charlotte (new)	Biltmore & Forest Hill (new)
Biltmore & Lodge (new)	Spruce & College (new)
McDowell & Doctor's Drive (new) in AM high school	
Hillard & Church (new)	Hillard & Lexington (new)

Greenway at Amboy & new section	Haywood & Roberts #24
Kimberly & Gracelyn #11	Kimberly & Evelyn #9
H'ville Rd & Busbee #33	H'ville & West Chapel Rd. (new)
McDowell & Short McDowell	Lexington & Walnut (new)
Haywood & Walnut	Hillard & Cox
Merrimon & Beaver Dam #10	Kimberly & Beaver Dam #12 AM drive
time	Hillard & Biltmore
Elkwood by school	Elkwood at Jonestown Rd.

Don, Janet, Gwen & Claudia will be the committee to work on this project.

Begin planning for the safety walk through the Haywood Road Corridor.

What information do we need to give DOT? Do we need counts?

What do we want and how will it help make things safer? When to invite participants? Oct 4 & 6

Terri, Janet, Don, Katie, Stephen Sachs will be on the committee to work on this project.

I reminded folks that Heather Strassberger with MPO is still taking volunteers for sidewalk evaluations.

Liberty Bicycles is spearheading the Pedal Link Project to raise funds to purchase a tract of land to extend the greenway beyond Hominy Creek Park. The Buncombe County manager has given permission to spend money budgeted to parks and recreation to purchase the Waller Tract. We are still waiting for word on the city. Counting all committed dollars raised so far we have \$10,595.00 toward the general public's commitment for 20%.

Suggestions were to Contact - Jason Sanford who writes the Asheville column to advertise this. The River radio station may also be interested.

Those committed so far from the cycling community are: ABRC, BRBC, Carmichael Training Center, and Liberty, Trek bike donation, QBP, individuals

We discussed how to get word out about the Nov 5, 6 & 7 Alliance Workshop Winning Campaigns which will take place in Asheville. We will have some home stays (and need a few more close to downtown). Several hotels are on board. We will hold the workshops at public works for workshop. Need to advertise to groups.

Claudia will contact the Alliance to see if they have a flyer we can put out **Winning Campaigns Training (Asheville, NC) - November 5-7**

This November, the Alliance is partnering with Asheville Coalition to bring our signature Winning Campaigns Training to Asheville, NC. Join your fellow bicycle and pedestrian advocacy leaders to learn from expert coaches and each other through the Alliance's proven curriculum on choosing, directing, and winning campaigns to increase bicycling and walking. After three days of fun and inspiring work with the country's leading experts in advocacy, you'll come away with the tools and confidence to not only advocate for improvements, but win them! Find more information at:

New Business:

Report from Barb Mee, she has applied for a grant from NC DOT safety money to add pedestrian signal crossings at four intersections. She is hoping that the first two can become pilots for audible signal crossings, as well. The intersections are: Biltmore Avenue, at South Charlotte and Southside, Haywood Road and Louisiana in West Asheville at the Ingles, Clingman and Hilliard, McDowell and Choctaw. TCC voted to support this effort and move it on to the TAC.

Barb's report of the new sidewalks & bicycle facilities with (ARRA) grant funds this summer. Sidewalk:

- Hendersonville Road (east side, from West Chapel to Forest St)
- Depot Street (east side, gap between Clingman Ave and Livingston St)
- Linden Street (one side, Birch Street to Royal Pines)
- Hilliard Ave (south side, gap between Coxe Ave and Church St)
- Short Michigan Ave (west side, Amboy Rd to State St),
- Evelyn Place (west side, gap between Kimberly and Murdock)
- Patton Ave (west of the river, on the north side from Regent Park to New Leicester Hwy)
- N. Louisiana Ave (west side, Patton to the cemetery)
- a multi use path along the creek side of Choctaw between South French Broad Ave and McDowell Ave.

Bicycle facilities:

- Climbing lane on the east side of Kimberly Ave from Evelyn to Gracelyn, and will follow up with sharrows for the westbound lane.
- Bike lanes on Coxe Ave from Patton to Southside
- Bike lanes on Asheland Ave from Patton to Southside
- Bike lanes on Hilliard from Clingman to near Biltmore
- Bike lanes and climbing lane and sharrows on Clingman Ave from the west side of the bridge to Hilliard.

Claudia wrote an article for the city web site and guest editorial for the paper to remind folks about how to ride in bike lanes and for motorist to be aware of bicyclists in the lanes.

Claudia reminded folks to participate in the Healthy Living Map and survey:

Help design the Healthy Living Opportunities Map. A local team is creating a web map of many opportunities for healthy living in Buncombe County. What would YOU like to easily find on a community map? Take the 2 minute survey to share your ideas>>>
<http://spreadsheets.google.com/viewform?hl=en&formkey=dGpDb1dQSzg1TXFNZVpHcGpLV2doQWc6MQ#gid=0>

Bike rack inventory- Have forgotten about it and need someone to help with this project. We need to map where they are located & # bikes will hold. I'd like to have a map on our web site. And develop a request form for folks to use to request on be placed around town.

Announcements & updates:

>Next month let's review the bike/ped web site see what want to add, improve or link to. The wiki RSV to lee.

>Woodfin just received a Fit Community Grant which is \$60,000.00 for two years. They will be building sidewalks on Elk Mountain Rd. and do programming and policy changes to address active life styles in the community and the importance of healthy life styles.

>**White House Am. Great Outdoors Listening Sessions (AGO) in July & August. Support community based efforts IMBA/SORBA Need to have many folks attend.**

>Mike Lewis email regarding P&Z efforts on affordable housing efforts.

>Attended Accessibility Webinar 6-3-10 with city staff.

>Attended the Wilma Dykeman Riverway plan celebration Tues.

>Have update on I-26 plan last week Bun. Co. Greenway Commission met at ADC

>Report on Summer Cycle bike ride with AOB< Healthy Buncombe> BRBC

>BRBC 501c3 status

Other suggestions were to have a map of city for the wall and list of terminology for new members and an orientation page for them.